

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-9 (cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 9 ~~27~~, further comprising:

a sample plate for supporting the sample,

wherein said radiation thermometer is above, aslant above, under or aslant under said sample plate, such that when the sample is on said sample plate said radiation thermometer is spaced from the sample by a distance that allows the infrared radiation emitted from the sample to be received by said radiation thermometer.

11. (Currently amended) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim ~~10~~ 21, further comprising:

a heating reference element, for performing temperature calibration of said radiation thermometer, removably disposed within said sample plate.

Claims 12-13 (cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim ~~13~~ 29, wherein

said radiation thermometer includes an opening through which the infrared radiation is to be received, and a removable clear protective cover for covering said opening.

15. (Previously presented) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 14, further comprising:

a heating reference element, for performing temperature calibration of said radiation thermometer, removably disposed within said sample plate.

16. (Currently amended) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 9 26, further comprising:

a sample plate for supporting the sample; and

a light conducting member above said sample plate,

wherein said radiation thermometer is positioned to receive infrared radiation emitted from the sample after this radiation has been guided by said light conducting member.

Claim 17 (cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim ~~17~~ 16, wherein

said light conducting member comprises one of a mirror and an optical fiber.

Claim 19 (cancelled)

20. (Currently amended) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim ~~19~~ 30, wherein

said light conducting member comprises one of a mirror and an optical fiber.

21. (Currently amended) ~~The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 16;~~ A heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter comprising:

a device for determining moisture content of a sample, said device including a radiation thermometer for determining a surface temperature of the sample by detecting infrared radiation emitted from the sample;

a sample plate for supporting the sample; and

a light conducting member above said sample plate,

wherein said radiation thermometer is positioned to receive infrared radiation emitted from the sample after this radiation has been guided by said light conducting member, and

wherein said light conducting member comprises one of a mirror and an optical fiber.

22. (Currently amended) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 16 ~~26~~, further comprising:

a sample plate for supporting the sample;

a light conducting member above said sample plate; and

a heating reference element, for performing temperature calibration of said radiation thermometer, removably disposed within said sample plate,

wherein said radiation thermometer is positioned to receive infrared radiation emitted from the sample after this radiation has been guided by said light conducting member.

Claims 23-24 (cancelled)

25. (Currently amended) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 24, wherein

said radiation thermometer includes an opening through which the infrared radiation is to be received, and a removable clear protective cover for covering said opening.

26. (Currently amended) ~~The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 9~~ A heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter comprising:

a device for determining moisture content of a sample, said device including a radiation thermometer for determining a surface temperature of the sample by detecting infrared radiation emitted from the sample,

wherein said radiation thermometer includes a heat insulating cover.

27. (Currently amended) ~~The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 9~~ A heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter comprising:

a device for determining moisture content of a sample, said device including a radiation thermometer for determining a surface temperature of the sample by detecting infrared radiation emitted from the sample,

wherein said radiation thermometer includes an opening through which the infrared radiation is to be received, and a removable clear protective cover for covering said opening.

Claim 28 (cancelled)

29. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 26, further comprising:

a sample plate for supporting the sample,

wherein said radiation thermometer is above, aslant above, under or aslant under said sample plate, such that when the sample is on said sample plate said radiation thermometer is spaced from the sample by a distance that allows the infrared radiation emitted from the sample to be received by said radiation thermometer.

30. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 27, further comprising:

a sample plate for supporting the sample; and

a light conducting member above said sample plate,

wherein said radiation thermometer is positioned to receive infrared radiation emitted from the sample after this radiation has been guided by said light conducting member.